



United States Environmental Protection Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20460

## Water Compliance Inspection Report

### Section A: National Data System Coding (i.e., PCS)

Transaction Code	NPDES	yr/mo/day	Inspection Type	Inspector	Fac Type
1 N	WAU000314	10330	=	R	3
Remarks					
21					
66					
Inspection Work Days	Facility Self-Monitoring Evaluation Rating	BI	QA	Reserved	
67 130 69	70	71	72	73 74 75 80	

### Section B: Facility Data

Name and Location of Facility Inspected (For industrial users discharging to POTW, also include POTW name and NPDES permit number)	Entry Time/Date	Permit Effective Date
Bel-Lyn Farms LLC 109 Beard Road Lynden, WA 98264	11:30am 3/30/2010 1:40pm	N/A
Name(s) of On-Site Representative(s)/Title(s)/Phone and Fax Number(s)	Exit Time/Date	Permit Expiration Date
Leroy Plagerman, owner/operator (b) (6) (cell phone)	1:35 pm 3/30/2010	N/A
Name, Address of Responsible Official/Title/Phone and Fax Number	Other Facility Data (e.g., SIC NAICS, and other descriptive information)	
Leroy Plagerman, owner/operator 239 Beard Road Lynden, WA 98264 (b) (6) (cell phone)	SIC 0241  unpermitted	
Contacted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

### Section C: Areas Evaluated During Inspection (Check only those areas evaluated)

<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-Monitoring Program	<input type="checkbox"/> Pretreatment	<input type="checkbox"/> MS4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Records/Reports	<input type="checkbox"/> Compliance Schedules	<input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Prevention	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Facility Site Review	<input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory	<input type="checkbox"/> Storm Water	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Effluent/Receiving Waters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operations & Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/> Combined Sewer Overflow	
<input type="checkbox"/> Flow Measurement	<input type="checkbox"/> Sludge Handling/Disposal	<input type="checkbox"/> Sanitary Sewer Overflow	

### Section D: Summary of Findings/Comments (Attach additional sheets of narrative and checklists, including Single Event Violation codes, as necessary)

SEV Codes	SEV Description
• • • • •	• • • • •
• • • • •	• • • • •
• • • • •	• • • • •
• • • • •	• • • • •



Name(s) and Signature(s) of Inspector(s)	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers	Date
Dave Terpening	EPA/OCE (206) 553-6905	4/9/10
Kristin McNeill	EPA/OCE (206) 553-6291	4/8/10
Signature of Management Q A Reviewer	Agency/Office/Phone and Fax Numbers	Date
Jon Hernandez	EPA/OCE 206 553 5644	9/13/10

PCS WAU000314

PCS.  
4-9-2010  
JB

# **NPDES Inspection Report**

**Bel - Lyn Farms, LLC**

**Lynden, Washington**



**March 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

**Prepared by:  
Dave Terpening, Environmental Scientist  
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10  
Office of Compliance and Enforcement  
Inspection and Enforcement Management Unit**

## Table of Contents

- I. Facility Information
  - II. Inspection Information
  - III. Permit Information
  - IV. Background and Activity
  - V. Individuals Present
  - VI. Inspection Entry
  - VII. Inspection Chronology
  - VIII. Owner and Operator Information
  - IX. Number of Animals
  - X. Presence of Vegetation in the Confinement Areas
  - XI. Length of Animal Confinement
  - XII. Waste Management Process
  - XIII. Observed Discharge
  - XIV. Receiving Water
  - XV. Sample Collection and Analyses
  - XVI. Areas of Concern
    - A. Storm Drain
  - XVII. Closing Conference
- Attachments
- A. Aerial Photograph
  - B. Photograph Documentation

(Unless otherwise noted, all details in this inspection report were obtained from conversations with Leroy Plagerman or from observations during the inspection.

This inspection report includes an aerial photograph (attachment A) and a photograph documentation attachment (attachment B). Note that the aerial photograph identifies the photograph direction and location for the photographs included in the photograph documentation attachment.)

**I. Facility Information**

Facility Name: Bel – Lyn Farms, LLC

Facility Type: Dairy (SIC 0241)

Facility Address: 109 Beard Road  
Lynden, Washington 98264  
Whatcom County

Mailing Address: 239 Beard Road  
Lynden, Washington 98264  
Whatcom County

Facility Phone #: (b) (6) (mobile)

Facility Contact: Leroy Plagerman

Facility GPS Position: N 48° 53' 03.02"  
W 122° 29' 01.18"

**II. Inspection Information**

Inspection Dates:	March 29, 2010	March 30, 2010
Arrival Times:	13:40 PM	11:30 AM
Departure Times:	14:00 PM	13:35 PM

Weather: Partly cloudy and light rain

Purpose: Determination of compliance with the Washington Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation General Permit and the Clean Water Act



### **III. Permit Information**

This facility is currently not covered by the Washington Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System General (NPDES) Permit. Bel-Lyn Farms has been ordered by Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) to seek permit coverage. To date (September 7, 2010) WDOE and the Washington Department of Agriculture (WDOA) has not received an application or Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) to review.

### **IV. Background and Activity**

According to Leroy Plagerman, he has taken over the dairy operation (b) (6) Mr. Plagerman indicated they started the dairy operation around 1990.

This dairy facility is considered a medium concentrated animal feeding operation and consists of the barn complex where animals are confined, fed, and maintained. It also includes a milk parlor, a silage storage area, a settling pond, solids separator, a waste storage lagoon, and adjacent pastures. This dairy covers approximately 400 acres.

The animals kept at this facility include adult milking and heifers. The waste generated at this facility is mainly manure and urine deposited in the barn areas. This facility is designed such that the wastes generated are collected, separated, stored and then ultimately land applied on nearby pastures.

The inspection of this dairy is part of EPA Region 10's concentrated animal feeding operation initiative.

See attachments A and B for aerial photos of the facility components.

### **V. Individuals Present**

The inspectors present for first day of this inspection included Dave Terpening (EPA), Kristin McNeill (EPA), Eric Bair (WDOA), and Mak Kaufman (WDOE). Mr. Kaufman was not present on the second day of the inspection.

Mr. Plagerman was present during the inspection.

### **VI. Inspection Entry**

This was an unannounced inspection. I presented my credentials to Mr. Plagerman and explained the purpose of the visit upon arriving at the facility on

March 29, 2010 at 13:40 PM. Mr. Plagerman indicated he was busy and could not meet with us today. I said I would return the next morning to conduct my inspection, however before I left I told Mr. Plagerman I wanted to look at a storm drain near the old waste lagoon, along frontage road. This drain had been receiving an unauthorized discharge which was documented in a previous inspection. Mr. Plagerman showed us the drain before we left the facility.

On the second day March 30, 2010 we arrived at 11:30 AM and waited till veterinarian finished before starting the inspection. Mr. Plagerman did not deny us access to the facility. We were allowed to inspect all areas that we wished to inspect.

## **VII. Inspection Chronology**

Upon arriving at the facility we began the inspection with an opening conference where we discussed the purpose and expectations of the inspection. The first day we walked the frontage road area to look at a storm drain system adjacent to the dairy. Returning the second day we finished the facility tour where we inspected the confinement barns, waste handling system, solid separator, waste storage lagoon, land application areas and NMP.

We then concluded the inspection with a closing conference where I discussed the area of concern I identified during the inspection.

## **VIII. Owner and Operator Information**

According to Mr. Plagerman, he owns and operates the dairy.

## **IX. Number of Animals**

According to Mr. Plagerman, his facility currently has about 400 milking cows and 400 heifers on site.

## **X. Presence of Vegetation in the Confinement Areas**

The confinement area at this facility consists of barns with concrete floors. I did not see any vegetation in any of the confinement areas.

## **XI. Length of Animal Confinement**

According to Mr. Plagerman, the cows are confined to the barns year round.

**XII. Waste Management Process**

Waste generated at this facility is mainly from the barns where the animals are confined. According to Mr. Plagerman, the animal waste is scraped from the barn alleys into a under storage tank. The waste is then pumped to a pit where a solid separator is used to remove the solids. The liquid portion of the waste from the solids separator is routed to a waste storage lagoon where it is stored until it can be land applied. The solid portion of the waste is stored in a dry stack area until it can be land applied onsite.

See attachments A and B for details regarding the waste management process at this facility.

**XIII. Observed Discharge**

I did not see any wastewater discharged at the time of this inspection.

**XIV. Receiving Water**

The nearest surface water to this facility is Four Mile Creek and the Nooksack River.

**XV. Sample Collection and Analyses**

I did not collect any samples at the time of this inspection.

**XVI. Areas of Concern**

We inspected the facility including the confinement areas and the waste handling systems. I saw one area of concern at the time of the inspection. The area of concern is described as follows.

**Storm Drain Catch Basin**

The Bel-Lyn Dairy is located at the intersection of Guide Meridian Road and Beard Road in Whatcom County. I saw a storm drain catch basin in the frontage road ditch. It appears the storm drain location is about 100 feet away from an old waste lagoon and next to a field where dairy waste (liquids and solids) are applied. The location of this storm drain has the potential to receive wastewater runoff from the dairy. At the time of the

inspection the storm drain was not receiving wastewater. See Attachment B, photographs number 4, 5, 6, 7 for location of storm drain.

This concern was an issue during a previous EPA inspection conducted at the dairy. During that inspection a discharge was occurring at the time of the inspection.

#### **XVII. Closing Conference**

The closing conference was held on March 30, 2010. The individuals present were the inspection team members (Dave Terpening, Kristin McNeill, and Eric Blair) and Leroy Plagerman. During the closing conference I discussed the area of concern identified above. Mr. Plagerman, indicated that he had addressed that issued and corrected it, since the last inspection. Mr. Plagerman said the correction was moving a french drain system in the field that is adjacent to the storm drain.

**Report Completion Date:**

SEPT 13, 2010

**Lead Inspector Signature:**

Dave Terpening



# **ATTACHMENT A**

## **Aerial Photographs**



Guide Meridian Rd

539

Beard Rd

in pond

past

past

past





TN

© 2007 Google

Photo 02

Bond 134

BERT LYN DAWAY

OLD  
LAKE

10/10/05



# **ATTACHMENT B**

## **Photograph Documentation**



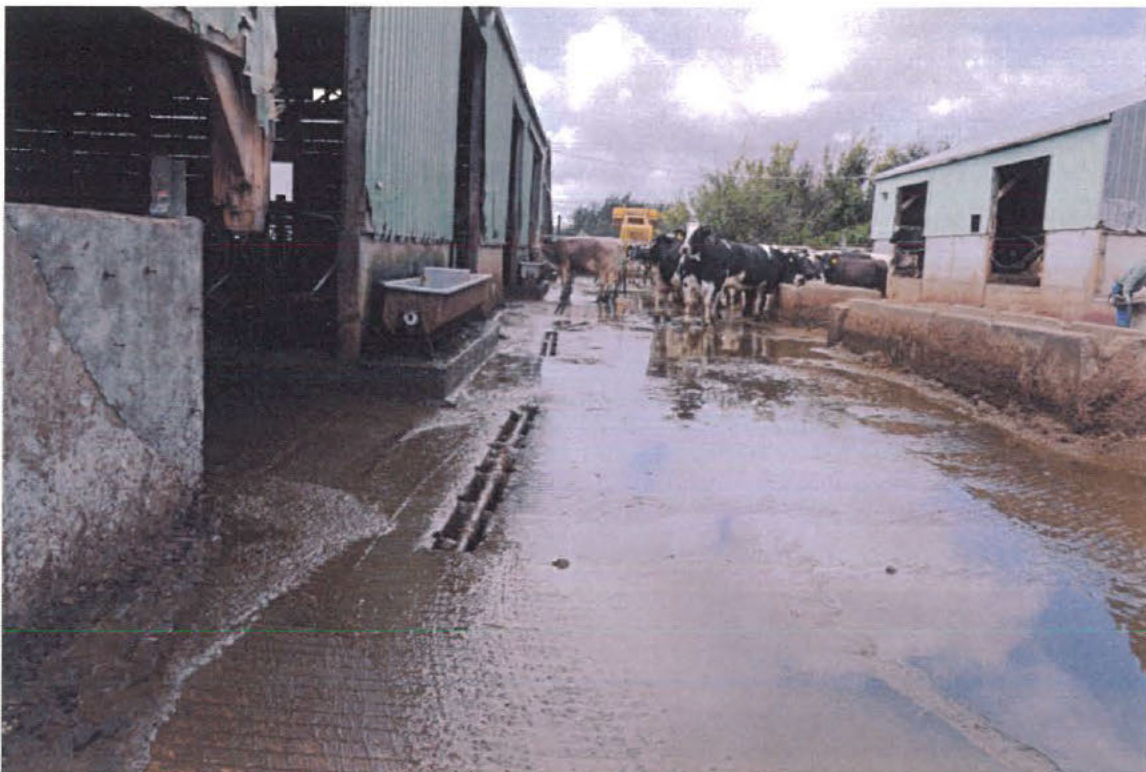


Photo 1. Bel-Lyn Dairy waste collection system in alley.



Photo 2. Bel-Lyn Dairy waste collection system showing an underground collection tank.





Photo 3. Bel-Lyn Dairy waste collection system with solid separator removing solids from open pit area.

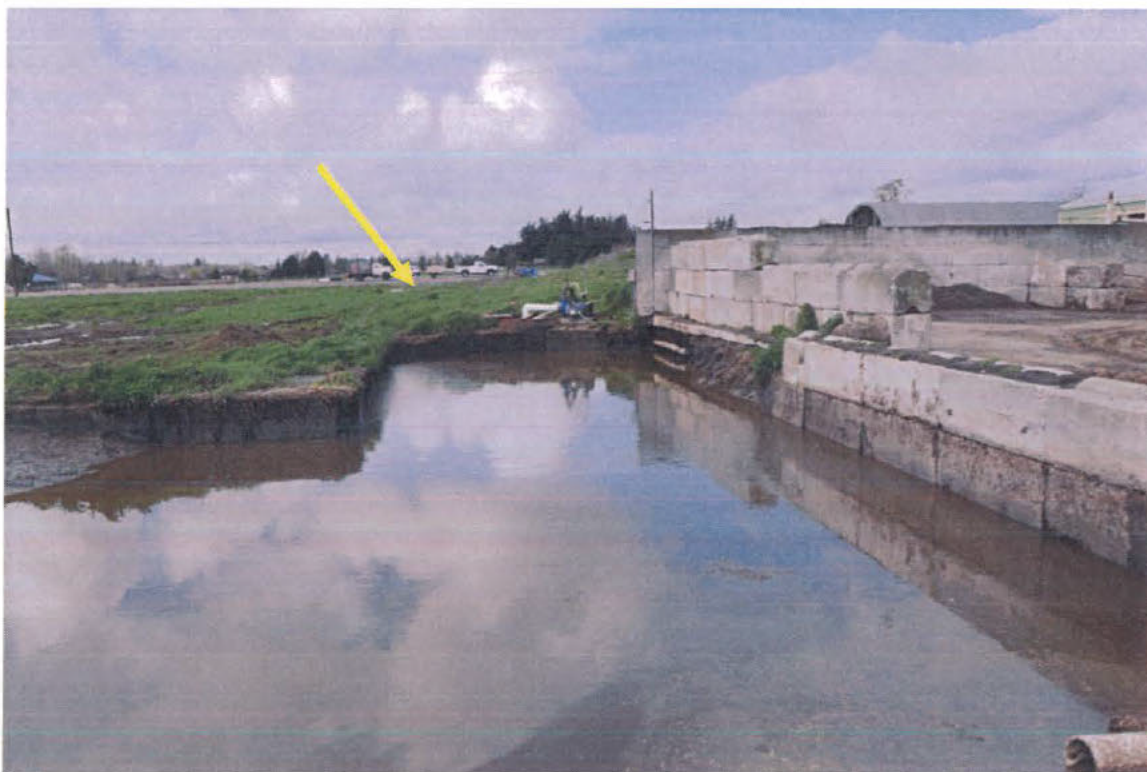


Photo 4. Bel-Lyn Dairy waste collection system looking west towards area where the storm drain is located. Yellow arrow points at storm drain along Guide Meridian Rd.





Photo 5. Bel-Lyn Dairy looking west across field adjacent to area where the storm drain is located. Yellow arrow points at storm drain along Guide Meridian Rd.



Photo 6. Bel-Lyn Dairy looking west across field adjacent to area where the storm drain is located. Yellow arrow points at storm drain along Guide Meridian Rd.





Photo 7. Bel-Lyn Dairy looking west across old storage lagoon near the area where the storm drain is located. Yellow arrow points at storm drain along Guide Meridian Rd.

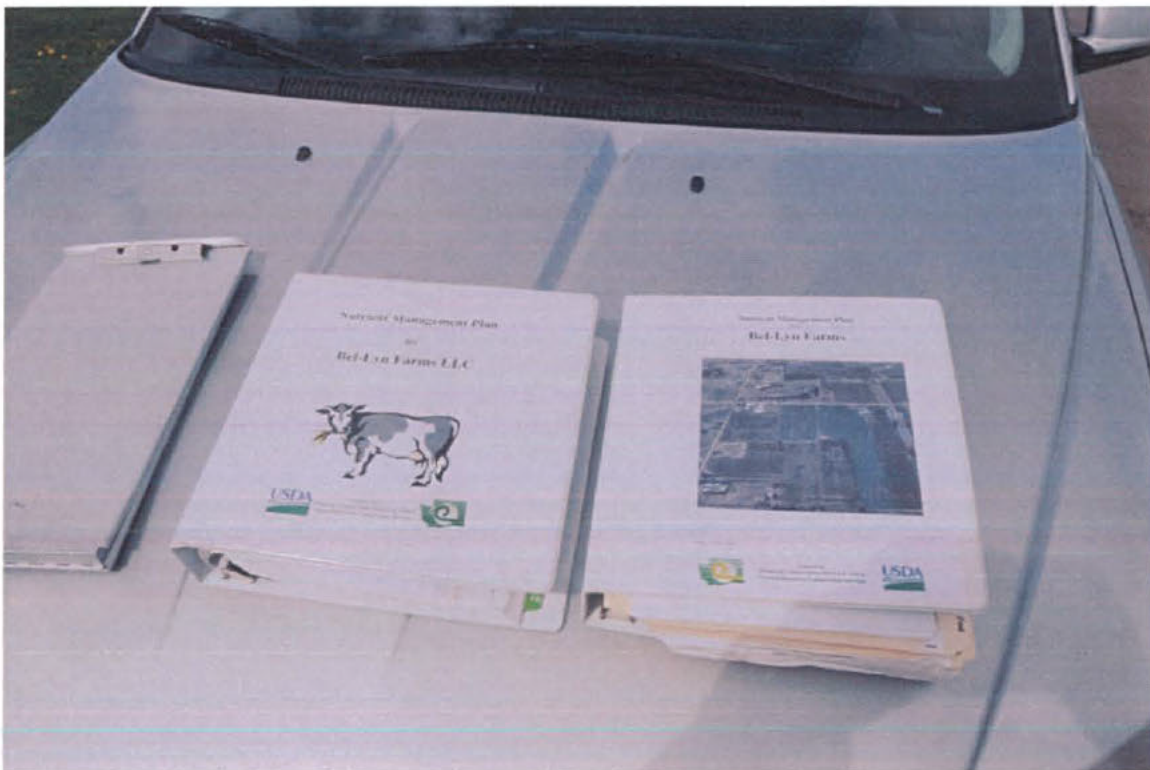


Photo 8. Bel-Lyn Dairy nutrient management plan.